

MEMORANDUM TO: Assistant Chief, Fiscal Division  
Chief, Accounting Branch  
Chief, Claims Branch  
Chief, Travel Branch  
Chief, Payroll Branch

FROM : Chief, Fiscal Division

SUBJECT : Laws Generally Applicable to  
Governmental Operations for  
1952 Fiscal Year.

1. Transmitted herewith is a listing of the various laws and regulations applicable, in general, to Governmental operations during the 1952 fiscal year. The listing does not include full coverage of legislation relating to Civil Service regulations or Federal employee pay matters, all of which should be of common knowledge or readily available in the offices primarily concerned. In some instances only a partial statement of the law has been made and, accordingly, the attached should be used as a guide, reference being made to the applicable law or regulation cited at the conclusion of each paragraph.

2. This compilation has been made for the purpose of inviting attention to laws, amendments thereto, and regulations which otherwise might be overlooked in the course of general review. An effort has been made to break the listing down into three general categories; i.e., Services, Personnel, Fiscal, data being shown under the function normally having primary interest. It is necessary, however, to review all categories since information of importance will be found.

3. As indicated, the attached applies to Governmental operations in general. However, in light of PL 110 (CIA Act), the information contained herein should be reviewed with particular reference to PL 110.



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S E R V I C E S

During the current fiscal year, no part of any money appropriated in this or any other Act shall be used during any quarter of such fiscal year to purchase within the continental limits of the United States typewriting machines (except book-keeping and billing machines) at a price which exceeds 90 per centum of the lowest net cash price, plus applicable Federal excise taxes, accorded the most-favored customer (other than the Government, the American National Red Cross, and the purchasers of typewriting machines for educational purposes only) of the manufacturer of such machines during the six-month period immediately preceding such quarter: Provided, That the purchase, utilization, and disposal of typewriting machines shall be performed in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended (Public Laws 152 and 754, Eighty-First Congress). (Public Law 137, approved August 31, 1951).

In order to keep the expenditures for printing and binding for the current fiscal year within or under the appropriations for such fiscal year, the heads of the various executive departments and independent establishments are authorized to discontinue the printing of annual or special reports under their respective jurisdictions; Provided, That where the printing of such reports is discontinued the original copy thereof shall be kept on file in the offices of the heads of the respective departments or independent establishments for public inspection. Public Law 168, Sec. 103, Approved October 11, 1951.

No part of any money appropriated in titles II, III, IV, or V of this Act shall be expended under any contract (other than a contract for personal services) entered into after the enactment of this Act unless such contract provides-

(1) that the Government may, by written notice to the Contractor, terminate the right of such contractor to proceed under such contract, if it is found, after notice and hearing, by the Secretary of the military department with which the contract is made, or his designee, that gratuities (in the form of entertainment, gifts, or otherwise) were offered or given by such contractor, or any agent or representative of such contractor, to any officer or employee of the Government with a view toward securing a contract or securing favorable treatment with respect to the awarding or amending, or the making of any determinations with respect to the performing, of such contract...

(2) that in the event ~~of~~ any such contract is so terminated the Government shall be entitled, (A) to pursue the same remedies against the contractor as it could pursue in the event of a breach of the contract by the contractor, and (B) as a penalty in addition to any other damages to which it may be entitled by law, to

or his designee) the costs incurred by any such contractor in providing any such gratuities to any such officer or employee. (Public Law 179, Sec. 631, approved October 18, 1951).

Contracts entered into foreign countries involving expenditures from any of the appropriations under this title shall not be subject to the provisions of section 3741 of the Revised Statutes (41 U.S.C. 22). (Public Law Sec. 102, approved October 22, 1951).

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 16a of the Act of August 2, 1946 (5 U.S.C. 78 (a)), Government-owned vehicles may be used in foreign countries for transportation of United States Government employees from their residence to the office and return when public transportation facilities are unsafe or are not available: Provided, That each Chief of Mission shall have prior authority from the Secretary of State to approve such transportation. (Public Law 188, Sec. 106, approved October 22, 1951).

During the current fiscal year and when purchases are made with foreign currencies, the Department of State is authorized to purchase for use abroad any passenger motor vehicle (exclusive of busses, ambulances, and station wagons), at a cost of not to exceed the equivalent of \$2,200 for each such vehicle. (Public Law 188, Sec. 107, approved October 22, 1951).

**-Diesel Fuel-**

**TAX-FREE Sales;** / "Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, no tax under this chapter shall be imposed with respect to the sale of any liquid for the exclusive use of any State, Territory of the United States, or any political subdivision of the foregoing, or the District of Columbia, or with respect to the use by any of the foregoing of any liquid as fuel in a diesel-powered highway vehicle. (Public Law 183, Sec. 2453, Approved October 20, 1951).

**MANUFACTURERS' EXCISE TAXES**

**Sec. 481. Automobiles, Trucks, and Parts or Accessories**

- (a) Increase in tax on trucks from 5% to 8%.
- (b) Increase in tax on Passenger Automobiles and Motorcycles.

Other chassis and Bodies, Etc. - Other ~~automobiles~~ ~~chassis~~ ~~and~~ ~~bodies~~ ~~for~~ ~~trailers~~ ~~and~~ ~~semitrailers~~ (other than house trailers) suitable for use in connection with passenger automobiles, and motorcycles (including in each case parts or accessories therefor sold on or in connection therewith or with the sale thereof), except tractors, 10 per centum.

- (c) Increase in tax on parts and accessories from 5% to 8%.
- (Public Law 183, Sec. 481, Approved October 20, 1951).

**Sec. 482. Navigation Receivers Sold to the United States.**

- (a) Exemption on Sales to United States of Certain Radio Sets--
- Section 3404 (a) (relating to manufacturers' excise tax on radio receiving sets, etc.) is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sentence: "No tax shall be imposed on the sale of

subsection with respect to the sale to the United States for its exclusive use of a communication, detection or navigation receiver of the type used in commercial, military, or marine installations."

(b) Tax-Free Sales of Radio Parts...For use by the vendee as material in the manufacture or production of, or as a component part of communication, detection, or navigation receivers of the type used in commercial, military, or marine installations if such receivers are to be sold by the vendee to the United States for its exclusive use. (Public Law 183, Sec. 482, Approved October 20, 1951).

There shall be imposed on the following articles, sold by the manufacturer, producer, or importer, a tax equal to 15 per centum of the price for which so sold: Mechanical pencils, fountain pens, and ball point pens; (Public Law 183, Sec. 487, Approved October 20, 1951).

Unless otherwise specifically provided, the maximum amount allowable during the current fiscal year, in accordance with section 16 of the Act of August 1946 (5 U.S.C. 78), for the purchase of any passenger motor vehicle (exclusive of busses, ambulances, and station wagons), is hereby fixed at \$1,400. (Public Law 253, Sec. 1301, Approved November 1, 1951).

Appropriations of the executive departments and independent establishments for the current fiscal year, available for expenses of travel or for the expenses of the activity concerned, are hereby made available for living quarters allowances in accordance with the Act of June 26, 1930 (5 U.S.C. 118a), and regulations prescribed thereunder, and cost-of-living allowances similar to those allowed under section 901 (2) of the Foreign Service Act of 1946, in accordance with and to the extent prescribed by regulations of the President, for all civilian officers and employees of the Government permanently stationed in foreign countries: Provided, That the availability of appropriations made to the Department of State for carrying out the provisions of the Foreign Service Act of 1946 shall not be affected hereby. (Public Law 253, Sec. 1303, Approved Nov. 1, 1951).

No part of any appropriation contained in this or any other Act shall be used to pay in excess of \$4 per volume for the current and future volumes of the United States Code Annotated, and such volumes shall be purchased on condition and with the understanding that latest published cumulative annual pocket parts issued prior to the date of purchase shall be furnished free of charge, or in excess of \$4.25 per volume for the current or future volumes of the Lifetime Federal Digest. (Public Law 253, Sec. 1305, Approved November 1, 1951).

Section 304 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 and section 4 of the Armed Services Procurement Act of 1947 are hereby amended by inserting at the end of the above-named sections the following new subsection:

(c) " All contracts negotiated without advertising pursuant to authority contained in this Act shall include a clause to the effect that the Comptroller General of the United States or any

of his duly authorized representatives shall until the expiration of three years after final payment have access to and the right to examine any directly pertinent books, documents, papers, and records of the contractor or any of his subcontractors engaged in the performance of and involving transactions related to such contracts or subcontracts." (Public Law 245, Approved October 31, 1951).

No appropriation contained in this Act shall be available for expenses of operation of messes (other than organized messes which are financed principally from nonappropriated funds) at which meals are sold to officers or civilians except under regulations approved by the Secretary of Defense, which shall (except under unusual or extraordinary circumstances) establish rates for such meals sufficient to provide reimbursement of operating expenses and food costs to the appropriations concerned: Provided, That, for the purposes of this section, payments for meals at the rates established hereunder may be made in cash or by deductions from the pay of civilian employees. (Public Law 179, Sec. 621, Approved October 18, 1951).